# Journeying Amid Caribou Herds Across Unknown Victoria Land





2 Character and and an analysis and an analysi

HE ESKIMO DISCOVERED by MR. STEFANSSON MAKE ANNUAL MIGRATIONS OF HUNDREDS OF MILES. Stefansson Receives Vociferous Wel-

# come From Most Widely Traveled of Eskimo Tribes

By VILHJALMUR STEFANSSON. | door ordinarily is. In other words, it

ashore just in the right place for be- shaped inside as well as outside and the mountains to the foot of Prince else but stones appeared in the walls. Albert Sound, for further to the west I asked this question with specia the mountains are high and difficult reference to the manner of construct to cross, and further to the east we colony in Greenland, for in Icelanda Right opposite where we now were. On the beach here there are any num-they said, was the pass they used once ber of flat and angular pieces of rock, every few years when they had occa- and of these exclusively the house had to go to trade for copper with been built. the Prince Albert Sound people.

bows and the materials for arrows, with transverse diameters no greater as well as now and then a stone pot or than five by seven feet. a stone lamp which they had secured. After photographing this house as from the Utkusiksaligmiut, I inquired well as the circumstances would ad-American mainland or purchased from most of the other. bitually at Bear Lake, and that the Albert Sound, where there is an ab- Horton River.

presence of a few families of them rupt descent to sea level.

As we saw there the summer that we were with

#### them was no accident. Mysterious Stone Houses.

there were no houses in that neightory, who had been the first man to slightly less than ours (we were makborhood, and they had often seen this take an active interest in the promoing about two and a half miles per room to the per room borhood, and they had often seen this take an active interest in the promoting about two and a half miles per noon, so that unfortunately in the few seven. Between the seven of them tribes, while this turned out to be tion of our expedition.

The direction in which the caribou ran when they went inland made it natural for us to pass right by the rock in question. I was about to pass it within something like twenty yards when I became convinced that it was no single rock, but a pile made by man. I accordingly went up and examined it. The men then admitted that it was a house, but they said it had not been built by human beings and it would be a bad thing to have

house carefully, but this was scarcely possible, for the many blizzards of winter had covered it up so and eviif they had had one they would not have lent it to us for any such pur pose as that of prying into this house. All the information I could get from them about it was that it had been built by the spirits before the human race inhabited the land.

#### Like Baffin Land Houses.

but later on they told me that sometimes foolish children in the absence of their parents would enter such houses in play; they, in fact, had done dren. The door, they said, was in the of caribou as those which we later ame being the next King of Denmark.

The door, they said, was in the of caribou as those which we later ame being the next King of Denmark.

The league enjoyed much prospersame position that an Eskin house killed on Victoria Island, but rather ity for more than a century and em-

HE Eskimo of the snow villages on the ground level, and just big on the coast of Victoria Island enough for a man to crawl through it told us that we had come on all fours. The house was dome ginning our overland journey across denied that sods, sticks or anything there were no rafters. They specifically

The commodities which they carry the mass of snow covering it, but it on these trading journeys, they told semed to be not over seven feet high, us, were tent polos, sleds, ready made and very probably had an oval floor

also where they got the wood to trade, mit we preceed to follow Natkusiak either picked up themselves on jour- tou, one of which I gave as a present

best of it, and especially the tent poles Island from Simpson Bay, near the currence of certain herds that move and the material for bows, they got mouth of Forsyth Bay, was 310 seconds south it does not explain the origin of when now and then a family of their magnetic, so nearly as the formation the particular herd which crossed the tribe went on a summer hunt to Great of the land allowed. The elevation Dease. Some other causes may have Bear Lake in the American Continent, gets greater and greater constantly as brought them together in the land un- the snow was deep; often, if the band bou, and of which we had numerous This confirmed what we knew already one goes north until one gets within inhabited either by Eskimo or Indian was large, they would travel in four properly taken scientific specimens that the Victoria Islanders bunt had five or six miles of the shore of Prince which lies between Coronation Gulf and or five

## Impressive Caribon Migration.

We had had many opportunities to bserve the migrations of caribou, but never a better one than now; or perhaps a better way of putting it may be that the phenomenon had never im-pressed me so much. There were no but still we shall set it down here.

the caribou in Victoria Island begin Dunziz first appears in history about to move south when the approach of the latter part of the tenth century. autumn changes the conditions of the food. Many of them consequently reach the sea on the south side of the reach the sea on the south side of the I happened to be familiar with the island before the ice is thick enough the Teutonic Order. in the cast there were stone dwellings land. Accordingly they crowd up on Danzig joined the Hanseatic League said to have been built by a race of men who were named with a name that differs but slightly from the name for spirit. The name given me here for spirit. The name given me here the familiar spirits of the shamans, and on specific inquiry they told me that the spirits who built these houses the familiar spirits who built these houses are feeding ground has been further back on the island. Eventually, in case of a late fall, you would have all the that the spirits who built these houses a few places, either where the feeding spread and the Hanseatic League and with their allies took an active part in the wars against the northern kingdoms and the pirates. This league was an alliance of the principal towns of northern Germany, which formed a powerful bond of union between eastern and western Europe. The first alliances were soon dissolved, but they are renewed and with their allies took an active part in the wars against the northern kingdoms and the pirates. This league was an alliance of the principal towns of northern Germany, which formed a powerful bond of union between eastern and western Europe. The first alliances were soon dissolved, but they were identical in kind with those em- a few places, either where the feeding shortly were renewed, and the war re-

across

would have had a longer distance to dic stone houses sod often is employed go as well as a more difficult road, to fill in the chinks between the stones well about its dimensions because of

We discovered on this crossing, consisted of innumerable small bands, formity. When they winded us they When the caribou travel in solid instead of the usual one, out of a band | When we got within about half a knowledge of white men. This group which by the way, is the first crossing There were seldom fewer than three usually ren ahead in the direction in masses they do not mind a man at all, that came to Walliraluk Island that mile of the houses our companions is not only the most presperous as by a white man of any part of Victoria caribou and never more than forty. which they had been going. A few, either the sight of him or the smell, evening. There was no point in kill-began to communicate with their fellows in the village by the use of one Copper Eskimo but they are also recrossing of Victoria Island three of range, the western end of which was although I do not think the proportion us, approaching to within 200 yards found it quite safe not to bother with the men accompanied us in the hope that we might meet caribou and shoot party in 1826 from across Dolphin and mer can be nearly as high as it is less than 100 of importance. There is a mountain were young buils and a few old ones, the wind, and some came up to inspect bou ordinarily are. Nevertheless we have hauled the meat. that we might meet caribou and shoot party in 1826 from across Dolphin and mer can be nearly as high as it is less than 100.

It came time to pitch camp in the everance proaching party running a few yards then in regard to their own country as me, in which case we should of Union Straits but which was never-between Dismal Lake and Great Bear.

The sight of the animals that came ning one of us would put up the tent morning I could with the glasses see to one side of the sled and stopping, and other countries and their general course give them some of the meant or two and before leaving the land we saw a small band and Natkusiak went in pursuit of the land we saw a small band and Natkusiak went in pursuit of the land went and the smell of the sid and stopping, and other countries and their general to one side of the sled and stopping. It is side and stopping and the continual pursuit of the morning I could with the glasses see to one side of the sled and stopping. It is seen that the smell of the side and their general to one side of the sled and stopping. It is seen that the smell of the side and their general to one side of the sled and stopping. It is seen that the smell of the side and stopping. It is seen that the smell of the side and their general to one side of the sled and stopping. It is seen that the smell of the side and their general to one side of the sled and stopping. It is seen that the smell of the side and their general to one side of the sled and stopping. It is seen that the smell of the side and their general to one side of the sled and stopping. It is seen that the smell of them in sumble the saw and the countries and their general to one side of the sled and stopping. It is seen that the smell of them in sumble the saw and the countries and their general to one side of the sled and stopping. It is seen that the smell of them in sumble the saw and the countries and their general to one side of the sled and stopping. It is seen that the smell of them in sumble the saw and the smell of them in sumble the saw and their general to one side of the sled and stopping. It is seen that the smell of them in sumble the saw and their smell of them in sumble the saw and their general to one side of the sled and their smell of them in sumble the saw and their smell of them in sumble the saw and their smell of the saw and the countries and their smell of the saw and their smell of the

National went in pursuit of the even in pursuit of the even in the form of the even in the experience. It is the experience of the even in the experience of the even in the experience of the experience of the even in the experience of the even in the even in the even in the even in the experience of the even in the e

and they said that some of it they and found that he had killed two cari- toria Island caribou seemed chiefly of for a few minutes and even lie down us they were directly toward the sun meals with a hundred pounds of meat. neys, to Cape Bexley on the North to the Eskimo, while we made use of April east of the Coppermine. It is travelled they sometimes moved at a

As we saw the migration now it thereby, but behaved with fair uni- more valuable than photographs.

file, especially in the rare places where mai which is so common as the cari- but a long and narrow island known who to the Eskimo as Walliraluk. For of arriving by the same route as ours. the sound. Accordingly we killed two we would be welcomed in the village.

### Largest of Arctic Villages.

# Discovers Mysterious Stone House to Which Natives Give Wide Berth as Abode of Spirits

either, for later on we visited another of them had had the snow roofs revillage of three houses of the same copie, and a third village of four a few families were living in caribou houses we never saw at all.

never before been seen by white men, had an interest of their own in being the one tribe which have oftener than y us, and it was therefore especially interesting to me that we should come upon them on the 13th of May, which of the Cape Bexley Eskimo of the

#### An Eskimo Welcome.

we came to a group of three men who they told us, the Ekalluktok, also My films were not too abundant, and out from the south shore just east of southeast, from the country, as they grounds in summer as do the Prince of the few examples of sign language markable for the extent of their seain existence among these Eskimo. The sonal migrations and for their conse-signs consist in one member of an ap-

running to meet us men, women, chil-dren, and about half the dogs, while the other half that happened to be the distant island of North Devon.

did not come upon us in a crowd, but it was only a few minutes until we were completely surrounded so that further progress was impossible. with its narrow streets, lined with Most, if not all of them shouled, talked loudly and ran holding their cades are often richly ornamented arms higher than their heads, open-The Language clong street) and the ing and closing their hands continu-Langer Market constitute together the ally to show they carried no weapon,

used in the old days as a meeting I had pointed this out to one man, place for the aristocratic young men he jumped on top of our sled and of the city and in front of which is shouted to the men to give us an openthe splendid Neptune Fountain.

ing, so that we could get nearer to the village and have a chance to pitch of Victoria Island. But in most years of Danzig (Baltic Sea). The Vistula Danzig is St. Mary's Church, which camp. This was done with the greatcontains many fire works of art est good will, but our dors were so other notable buildings are the new excited that they refused to pull upon building of the Landing of West Prus- which some one suggested that we to Prince Albert Bay and thence south sis, the savings bank, the Municipal unhitch them, for there were plenty They abandon their sleds when the Museum and the new synagogue. The of people around for puiling our sled city has a municipal library with 120. The doss were accordingly unhitched and used their first opportunity to get Improvements in the beds of the into fights with the local dogs, add-Vistula and the Mottlau have enabled ing their growls and snaris to the this position it had great prosperity city. Danzig still retains a part of its large sengoing vessels to reach the and its wealth greatly increased. The ancient walls, and one of the town docks and piers of Danzig, and it also as they tumultuously pushed and

### Snow House Offered.

themselves were still of snow, but most placed by ones of caribou skins, and skin tents.

One of the first things we learned of special interest in that they had here was something which changed We were told that there were no people on Banks Island in summer. Our informants themselves, they said, had others been visited by white men. It spent the winter there at various was the last of the tribes to be visited points on the southeast coast and were the only people who did live any-

They had all left there in understood to be the latter part of March, and were now bound for the eastward. The majority intended to ascend the River Kagloryuak, which flows into the east end, of Prince When we approached the village Albert Sound and rises near the and were about two miles south of it centre of the island. Another river, rises near the centre of the island,

## People of Wide Travel.

The sign was quickly understood in but they also knew about King Willhe village, which in its entirety came iam Island far to the cast, and about

tethered howled loudly and plaintively. But most remarkable of all was the It was a crowd that I later estimated variety of countries they had seen with their own eyes. During the mid-The village was large, and as each die of winter they occupy the southfar as they know. About March each year they start east, and toward the middle of May, as we could tell from our present experience, they get to Sound. On the Sound they split into hunt, between the Sound and Minto Inlet; in some years a few go south

> The largest body goes east, as I have from the main body in Prince Albert They abandon their sleds when the south with pack dogs, the people themselves carrying packs, until they reach the Back River. The Back River pecland travel until in August they reach wonded section of another river, the Arkillinik.

# Danzig, a Pawn of Diplomats for Centuries

had passed our camp on Dease River often recently in the news from the in the North American Continent in October of the previous year, which led me to speculate on the why and threatens to become the casus belli of threatens to become the casus belli of would have liked to examine the wherefore of the fundamental differ- a new war between the new republics ence of that migration from this one, of Germany and Poland, has been the I can never for a long time remain object of barter and sale among the of the same mind as to the reason for rulers and diplomats of Europe for the almost unbelievable massing of the last eight or nine centuries, and it would have been the work of a day animals shown by such a herd as the for some years in the fourteenth cenor two, even with good shovels, to clean it out so as to get an idea of article. If some one else were to adthe interior. Unfortunately we had no vance the theory I am about to present great fleet. The city has not now the shovel with us and neither did the labeled no doubt immediately see commercial importance that it had shovel with us and neither did the more than one way of demolishing it. Eskimo have one. I feit sure, too, that It is a fact known to us through the production of Poland, but it would be statements of the Eskimo, as well as deducible on a priori grounds, that of the new Poland.

Danzig first appears in history about len. In 1308 it went under the rule of About the year 1358 the citizens of

was good or where a point jutted out solved by the Hansentic Diet at Co-When I asked what the house was to the south. Then as soon as a night logne in 1367 raised the league to the like inside, they said first that no man or two of hard frost bridges the sea zenith of its power. It conquered

## ANZIG or Dantzig (in Polish | West Prussian City Now Looming as the style of as Roman triumphal arch, the West Prussian City Now Looming as the style of as Roman triumphal arch, were fleeter of foot than others they has always been so in the past, so Possible Casus Belli Reflects Vividly Its Remarkable Past

one of the most important and power- signed to Prussia, ful of the mediaeval commercial cities. Danzig is situated on the left bank When the Hanzeatic League took part of the Danzig arm of the Vistula, in

home inden with booty.

braced eighty cities, from Reval to second partition of Poland in 1793 at Amsterdam and from Cologne to Bres- length restored Danzig to German sulau and Cracow, hesides owning fac- premacy, but in 1807 the Prussian tories in Bergen, Bruges, London and Marshal Kaickreuth surrendered the other cities. Danzig was one of the city to the French Marshal Lefebvre, cughfare, full of magnificent old of us." "We have no knives." "We other cities. Danzig was one of the city to the French Marshal Lefebvre, principal towns of the alliance, and who in consequence of his success was structures that played their part in of the city systematic field the city of the French Marshal Lefebvre, cughfare, full of magnificent old of us." "We have no knives," "We ha owing to the city's extensive trade the created Duke of Danzig. Danzig remained in the possession of the French wealth and population of the town increased rapidly, and it soon became until 1814, when it was again as nearby is the Exchange, a building to the city. Here stands the meilieval town hall, and from the village to suit us, and, after make implements for themselves and

in the English Wars of the Roses the West Prussia, four miles above the ships of Danzig frequently returned entrance of the Vistula into the Bay As the power of the Teutenic Order is here joined by the Mottlau, which began to decline and that of the cities traverses the city of Danzig in two began to increase the latter entered streams, forming the Speicherinsel, or into a confederation and threw off the Granary Island, and receives the litof the Order after a desperate the stream Radaune. The city is nearstruggle. Danzig, after having de- ly circular in form, with the more stroyed the castle of the Knights, modern quarters on the right bank of placed itself as a "free city" under the the Mottlau. There are about fifty protection of the Kings of Poland. In bridges in the various sections of the

### Cheerful People Are in Demand

"Give me cheerful people," said the he feels that way; in fact he takes a in 1899. The city's commerce prior to that the caribou that passed us in by the peace of Stralsuns in 1370 it the other cheerful, inclined to smile, I customer.

America in October did not seem to became entitled to ratify the election would take the cheerful man every "A sole

is a magnificent specimen of sixteenth century architecture.

Few cities of Germany present so quaint an aspect or reflect so vividly the spirit of the past as does Danzis. stately houses whose tall gabled fa-

he splendid Neptune Fountain.

docks and piers of Danzig, and it also as they tumultuously pushed and kayaks and they resume their over has an outer port in Neufahrwasser, hauled our sled up to the village. at the mouth of the Vistula, which i was created as a free port for Danzig

This was, perhaps, the most vecifstore manager. "I don't mean laugh- hopeful, friendly view of everybody; the world war was very extensive, its erous welcome we had ever received. The other object of this long to the world war was very extensive, its erous welcome we had ever received ney is to get wood and wooden artiing, joking, funny people, but people and everything. He thinks well of his principal trade being in grain, timber What with dogs barking and howling ing, joking, funny people, but people own stock and shows it freely and and sugar. There are throughout the and people laughing and talking, it cutting the trees and shaping the was difficult to make oneself under-wood. Others they get by barter with who has any sense ever goes inside; over the entire vast army moves south Sweden and Denmark and per- a cheerful view. As between two men interested in it; and because he be- the manufacture of munitions of war, stood. We were immediately asked the Eskimo of the Arkillinik, in exof equal intelligence and experience, lieves in it himself be quite naturally Shipbuilding is carried on extensively whether we desired to put up a The chief flaw in this argument is that the caribou that passed us in the passed us in the passed us in by the peace of Stralsuns in 1370 it the other cheerful, inclined to smile, I customer.

The chief flaw in this argument is that places within these countries, and but one of sober, serious bearing, and inspires confidence in the mind of the simply and inconnection with the shippy and inconnection with the shippy are some house, in which case they died in connection with the shippy are some house, in which case they died in connection with the shippy are some house, in which case they died in connection with the shippy are some house, in which case they died in connection with the shippy are some house, in which case they died in connection with the shippy are some house, in which case they died in connection with the shippy are some house, in which case they died in connection with the shippy are some house, in which case they died in connection with the shippy are some house, in which case they died in connection with the shippy are some house, in which case they died in connection with the shippy are some house, in which case they died in connection with the shippy are some house, in which case they died in connection with the shippy are some house, in which case they died in connection with the shippy are some house, in which case they died in connection with the shippy are some house, in which case in it makes the quite and in connection with the shippy are some house, in which case they died in connection with the shippy are some house, in which case they died in connection with the shippy are some house, in which case in it has a shippy are some house, in the shippy are some house, in which case in the shippy are some house, in which case in the shippy are some house, in which case they died in connection with the shippy are some house, in which case they are some would take the cheerful man every time. He can sell 50 per cent. more gloomy man, might do for a book-sugar refining distilling and the manusched facture of chemicals, vinegar, mineral waters and paper.

"He is just naturally polite because sell goods."

"A solemn faced man, even a shops. The principal industries are own tent and the season of the year (Copyright, 1912, by Vilhjalmur factors and now come when a tent is prefer-to be continued in next Sunday's waters and paper.

"To be continued in next Sunday's ferred to pitch it as we ordinarily did."

"To be continued in next Sunday's waters and paper.